

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-19 IO-15 NEA-10 TRSE-00 MBFR-04 SAJ-01 OIC-04

AEC-11 OMB-01 SCI-06 DRC-01 /169 W

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P R 281831Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7723

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 14118

SHAPE FOR INTAF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR: NUCLEAR ASPECTS

REF: (A) USNATO 4540, (B) USNATO 4445, (C) STATE 190193

1. RUTH ASKED EMBOFF TO CALL SEPT 27 FOR EXPLANATION OF FRG VIEWS ON SOME NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF MBFR. REFERRING TO PROMISE OF FURTHER FRG INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN AT SEPT 25 WORKING GROUP MEETING (REF A), RUTH SHOWED US THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AN "OPEN ENDED SUBGROUP OF NUCLEAR PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH MBFR" WHICH GERMAN WG REP HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INTRODUCE AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. NATO AND U.K. NATO.

2. ACCORDING TO PROPOSED TOR, SUBGROUP WOULD "IDENTIFY NUCLEAR ELEMENTS RAISED IN VARIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO
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MBFR DOCUMENTS, FOR EXAMPLE, U.S. OPTION THREE IN

APRIL 30 PAPER; STUDY MILITARY AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF NUCLEAR ELEMENTS; AND PRODUCE REPORT TO WORKING GROUP." COMPOSITION OF SUBGROUP WOULD BE OPEN ENDED, WOULD INCLUDE NPG EXPERTS OF NATIONAL NATO DELEGATIONS, AND WOULD BE CHAIRED BY IMS MEMBER OR DIRECTOR OF NPG.

3. IN JUSTIFYING ABOVE PROPOSAL, RUTH SAID CONSIDERABLE INFORMAL DISCUSSION WAS GOING ON OVER NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF MBFR AND THERE WAS A NEED TO CHANNEL THIS DISCUSSION INTO RESPONSIBLE FORUM. RUTH SAID FRG OPPOSED WG MODEL BUILDING OR CONSIDERATION OF POLICY BUT FAVORED HARD THINKING ON MILITARY AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS FOR THE USE OF NAC, SPC AND ALLIED NEGOTIATORS. PURPOSE IS TO ESTABLISH SUBGROUP ALONG LINES OF WG SUBGROUP ON CONSTRAINTS. HENCE, GERMANS HAD OFFERED TOR AND WOULD BE HAPPY TO HAVE U.S. AND UK. THINKING ON TOPIC.

4. EMBOFF NOTED SUGGESTION OF U.S. REP AT SEPT 25 WG MEETING, I.E., THAT STAFF GROUP MIGHT NOW PREPARE FIRST DRAFT OF A WG REVIEWING PAPER INCORPORATING RELEVANT NATIONAL COMMENTS (REF'S A & C). EMBOFF SAID U.S. VIEWS ON MBFR WORKING GROUP WERE OTHERWISE WELL KNOWN TO RUTH. RUTH EMPHASIZED WISH FOR STRICT DEFINITION OF SUBGROUP TASKS, AND SAID HE COULD, FOR EXAMPLE, AGREE TO INSERT THE WORD "STRICTLY" BEFORE THE WORDS "MILITARY AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF NUCLEAR ELEMENTS" IN GERMAN TOR (PARA 2 ABOVE). HE SAID HE ALSO COULD ACCEPT THE WORD "ALLIED" TO MAKE CLEAR THAT NUCLEAR ELEMENTS TO BE IDENTIFIED WOULD BE THOSE RAISED IN "ALLIED CONTRIBUTIONS TO MBFR DISCUSSIONS." EMBOFF UNDERTOOK TO REPORT THESE VIEWS AND URGED RUTH TO CONSULT WITH U.S. NATO BEFORE TABLING PROPOSAL IN MBFR WG.

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5. IN REPLYING TO EMBOFF'S QUESTIONS CONCERNING GERMAN SPEAKING NOTE CIRCULATED IN WG SEPT 18 (REF B), RUTH ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SOME FORMULATIONS IN SPEAKING NOTE WERE "UNFORTUNATE" AND THAT FRG WAS NOT INTENDING TO SUGGEST THAT SOVIETS MUST BRING I/MRBM'S INTO MBFR IN RETURN FOR U.S. NUCLEAR SYSTEMS AFFECTED BY MBFR. RATHER, FRG WISHES TO ASSURE THAT NUCLEAR CAPABILITY IN EAST AND WEST ARE BOTH TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AND THAT MBFR NOT LEAD TO UNILATERAL NUCLEAR CEILING ON WESTERN SIDE. NOR DO GERMANS FAVOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR CEILINGS ON BOTH SIDES AS THIS WOULD INVOLVE LIMITED NUCLEAR ZONE FOCUSING ON TWO GERMANY'S. INSTEAD, RUTH UNDERSTANDS U.S. APPROACH TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN MBFR AS REFLECTING A READINESS TO INTRODUCE SOME NUCS "INTO THE BASKET" IN ORDER TO INDUCE SOVIETS TO ACCEPT REDUCTIONS AND COMMON CEILING END GOAL DESCRIBED IN AMERICAN PAPER. RUTH CONFIRMED THAT FRG COULD SUPPORT THIS APPROACH TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN MBFR-I, ALTHOUGH BONN OBVIOUSLY WOULD PREFER TO RETAIN
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NUCLEAR OPTIONS FOR BARGAINING PURPOSES IN MBFR-II IF THAT SHOULD PROVE POSSIBLE. IN ANY EVENT GERMAN CONCERN IS THAT WESTERN SIDE SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECTED IN MBFR PROJECT TO UNILATERAL CEILING FOR TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN14118
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS CASH
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973094/aaaaacvj.tel
Line Count: 163
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) USNATO 4540, (B) USNATO 4445, (C,) STATE 190193
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Jul-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <18-Sep-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: NUCLEAR ASPECTS
TAGS: PARM, GE, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005